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Chinese Immigration. By MARY ROBERTS COOLIDGE, Ph.D.
(New York: Henry Holt & Company, 1909. Pp. 531. \$1.90.

At last we have a discussion of the question of Chinese immigration in the United States that is worthy of consideration. In this volume Dr. Coolidge has traced the story of the coming of these orientals, of the various agitations against them, and of the passage of numerous exclusion measures and the attempts to enforce them. The last third of the book is given over to a lengthy refutation of the arguments concerning competition with American labor and the impossibility of assimilation. An appendix is added containing a brief bibliography and several statistical tables.

The field covered by the author is a large one, but, although she states that its study was begun in 1892, she has failed to give us as thorough a piece of work as might be expected. She devotes pages to the elaboration of some minor point or to the testimony taken by some legislative or congressional committee, but at times entirely neglects, or mentions very briefly, the numerous and highly important agitations waged against the Chinese by organized labor. She also fails to note the change in the character of the opposition to the orientals which took place between the earlier period when the laborers, single-handed, were fighting against them and accomplishing nothing, and the later period when capitalists were forced by the competition of the Chinese in business and manufacturing to join with the laborers, and thus secured the enactment of exclusion laws. But one other matter need be mentioned in this connection. In using certain wage statistics for the East and the West with the object of showing the effect of Chinese competition upon the California laborer, she has neglected to make a thorough investigation of either wages or the cost of living. Both should have been thoroughly studied because conclusions otherwise obtained are unreliable as long as conditions in these sections of the nation have always varied so greatly.

The author discloses a surprising lack of appreciation for the position of those who are opposed to the immigration of the Chinese, and it is this strong prejudice in favor of the orientals which greatly detracts from the worth of the book. There is no argument against the Chinaman, ranging from his well-known vices of opium smoking, gambling, and trafficking in lewd women to the old conten-

tion that he can never assimilate, which she does not combat as vigorously as though she were a well paid attaché of the Emperor of China. But in doing this she has not hesitated to use figures and testimony taken from reports and documents which she condemns in earlier chapters as being prejudiced and unreliable.

Repetition of arguments and statements is so frequent as to be painfully noticeable. The present book is over 500 pages in length, yet with a better arrangement of the material it could be reduced to 300 pages or even less. Each chapter is burdened by having its head from three to nine quotations taken from speeches, congressional documents, newspapers, etc., which very frequently are not concerned with the subject discussed in the chapter. A word of criticism must also be directed against the manner in which some of the footnotes and statistical tables are printed as well as against the numerous typographical errors which are scattered throughout the volume.

As an historical study of the Chinese question in the United States this book is a valuable, though not an authoritative, contribution to our literature upon immigration. As a brief for those who favor the admission of these orientals, it has no equal. But more than this cannot be said. It can have no influence upon the people regarding the advisability of opening the United States to the Asiatics. No amount of arguing can change the attitude of the inhabitants of the Pacific Coast upon this proposition. The orientals are not wanted, and the East has finally learned this fact after many years of agitation on the part of the Californians. If a race of people is objectionable to another race, all the arguments in the category ought not to be sufficient to force them to mingle with each other.

The author argues that the Chinese are needed to further the development of the resources of the coast states, especially to work in the orchards and upon the farms. There *has* been a problem of farm labor in California, and that problem still exists, but not to such an extent as formerly. In the past, the laborers in the eastern States have looked upon the Pacific coast as being a place where Chinese and Japanese coolies did all the work, and where a white man was not wanted except occasionally as a strike-breaker. In addition to this, agriculture has been conducted upon a large scale and farms of small acreage have been difficult to obtain. Today these things are passing away; the Eastern laborer is coming to

California because he begins to feel that there is a chance for him to obtain employment, now that Asiatics have been excluded; while the big ranches are being broken up into smaller holdings and sold to farmers who can work them for the most part without the aid of outside laborers. Thus it is that the problem is solving itself, and in the future we may hope to see California industries carried on without the aid of either Chinese or Japanese laborers.

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Women in Industry. By EDITH ABBOTT of Hull House, Chicago.

With an introductory note by Sophonisba P. Breckinridge.

(New York: Appleton and Company, 1910. Pp. xxii, 409. \$2.)

This work is not an investigation of existing conditions, but is an inquiry into the history and statistics of the employment of women in America. The scope and nature of the study may be indicated by its chapter headings: the colonial period, the period of transition, the early field of employment, the cotton industry, early mill operatives, the manufacture of boots and shoes, cigar-making, the clothing industry, printing, the problem of women's wages, public opinion and the working woman.

The chief fact impressed by these chapters is that women did not replace and are not now replacing men in industrial employment; on the contrary, American industries were at first occupied almost entirely by women and children. This conclusion will perhaps prove disquieting to those who declare that women are rushing into the industries and driving men to other fields of work or to a lower wage. The present study emphasizes also the fact that it is a mistake to consider *en bloc* the problem of women's work, since the problem varies with the occupation in question.

In the colonial period, agriculture was in the hands of men, while women and children had practically entire charge of manufacturing. Women were especially urged to enter industrial work so as to render it unnecessary for the men to withdraw from the farms. The proportion of women in the cotton industry, we are shown, has